

DEFINITIONS:

River – A large natural stream of water emptying into an ocean, lake, or other body of water and usually fed along its course by converging tributaries.

Watershed – The total land area that contributes water to a river, stream, lake or other body of water.

Pollute – To make impure or unclean by contact or mixture. To make unfit for or harmful to living things, especially by the addition of waste matter.

Ocean – The entire body of salt water that covers more than 70 percent of the earth's surface.

Aquifer – An underground geological formation, or group of formations, containing water. Are sources of groundwater for wells and springs.

Well – A bored, drilled, or driven shaft, or a dug hole whose depth is greater than the largest surface dimension and whose purpose is to reach underground water supplies or oil, or to store or bury fluids below ground.

Wetland – An area that is saturated by surface or ground water with vegetation adapted for life under those soil conditions, as swamps, bogs, fens, marshes, and estuaries.

Storm drain – A place where water from the street flows into. Water that is deposited here flows directly to lake, river, or ocean.

Urban Runoff – Storm water from city streets and adjacent domestic or commercial properties that carries pollutants of various kinds into the sewer systems and receiving waters.

Groundwater – The supply of fresh water found beneath the Earth's surface, usually in aquifers, which supply wells and springs. Because ground water is a major source of drinking water, there is growing concern over contamination from leaching agricultural or industrial pollutants or leaking underground storage tanks.